

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) An information processing device capable of sharing an image with ~~another other~~ information processing device ~~devices~~ belonging to a same main group as that of the information processing device, the information processing device comprising:

an image storage section operable to store images ~~image information~~;

a transmission section operable to transmit to a server image information regarding a whole or a part of the images ~~image information~~ stored in the said image storage section;

an information retention section operable to retain information ~~concerning the~~ regarding a main group to which the information processing device belongs to and information concerning regarding a sub group, the sub group being arranged ~~which is set up~~ between the information processing device and at least one of the other information processing device ~~devices~~ belonging to the same main group ~~as that of the information processing device~~;

a reception section operable to receive, from the server, shared image information ~~concerning regarding an image information~~ to be shared by all a plurality of information processing devices belonging to the same main group, the image ~~information~~ to be shared having been specified by the server based on the ~~whole or the part of the~~ shared image information;

a display section operable to display ~~an the~~ image in accordance with the shared image information received by the said reception section;

an operation instruction section operable to provide the server with an instruction in accordance with an operation performed ~~by a user on~~ the image displayed on the said display section; and

a control section operable to execute interactive image viewing of the image to be shared based on shared information received by said reception section, the image to be shared being specified by the server in accordance with an operation performed by an information processing device belonging to the same main group, wherein the image is shared only between the information processing device and at least one other information processing devices in the same

main group that are also arranged in a sub group, and

the control section is also operable to execute interactive image viewing of the image to be shared based on shared image information received by said reception section, wherein the image is shared within the entire main group with all the information processing devices belonging to the same main group ~~execute interactive image viewing with another information processing device which belongs to the same group and with which the sub group is set up, by using the shared image information received by the reception section, the shared image information being specified by the server at any time in accordance with an operation performed by a user of any information processing device that belongs to the same group.~~

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 20, further comprising an input section operable to input information regarding a feeling or emotion ~~of the user~~ about an image displayed on the said display section,

wherein ~~the~~ said transmission section transmits, to another information processing device belonging to the same main group, the information regarding the feeling or emotion ~~information corresponding to the feeling inputted into~~ via the input section.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 20, further comprising a direct communication section operable to directly transmit to the at least one other information processing device belonging to the sub group, without involving the server, ~~an~~ the image to be shared only within the sub group.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according claim 21, further comprising a direct communication section operable to directly transmit, without involving the server, the information regarding the feeling or emotion ~~information~~ to the at least one other information processing device belonging to the sub group.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 20

wherein ~~the~~ said reception section downloads the shared image information in accordance with URL information which is notified from the server, the URL information indicating where the shared image information is stored.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 24 wherein the URL information is created based on cellular phone numbers of all ~~the~~ information processing devices belonging to the same main group.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 20 wherein ~~the~~ said operation instruction section is a touch panel.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 26, wherein

~~the~~ said operation instruction section is provided on ~~the~~ said display section; and

~~the~~ said control section causes ~~the~~ said display section to display a shared image and a menu image with which ~~a user performs an operation on the shared image~~ is performed.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 26 wherein ~~the~~ said operation instruction section allows ~~the user to perform an operation to be performed~~ on a shared image by moving ~~the~~ a user's finger on ~~the~~ said operation instruction section.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) The information processing device according to claim 20, further comprising an image input section operable to input the image information.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended) The information processing device according to claim 29, wherein

~~the~~ said image input section inputs the image information and attribute information

indicating a time when the image information has been inputted, and causes ~~the~~ said image storage section to store the image information and the attribute information; and

~~the~~ said transmission section transmits to the server the image information and the attribute information.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended) An information processing system allowing a plurality of information processing devices belonging to a same main group to share an image via a server, wherein

each of the plurality of information processing devices comprises:

an image storage section operable to store ~~image information~~ images;

a transmission section operable to transmit to the server image information regarding a whole or a part of the ~~image information~~ images stored in the said image storage section;

an information retention section operable to retain information ~~concerning~~ regarding the ~~a~~ main group to which the information processing device belongs ~~to~~ and information managed by the server ~~concerning~~ regarding a sub group, the sub group being arranged set up between two or more information processing devices among the plurality of information processing devices belonging to the same main group;

a reception section operable to receive shared image information from the server;

a display section operable to display an image in accordance with the shared image information received by ~~the~~ said reception section;

an operation instruction section operable to provide the server with an instruction in accordance with an operation performed ~~by a user~~ on the image displayed on the said display section; and

a control section operable to control image viewing by the device,

the server comprises:

a server reception section operable to receive the image information from at least one of the plurality of information processing devices;

a server image storage section operable to store the image information received by the said server reception section;

an information management section operable to manage information ~~concerning~~regarding the plurality of information processing devices belonging to the same main group;

a server control section operable to specify, in accordance with the operation performed by the user and based on the image information stored in the said server image storage section, ~~an image information~~ to be shared by the plurality of information processing devices; and

a server transmission section operable to transmit, to the plurality of information processing devices, the shared image information ~~concerning~~regarding the image ~~information~~ which has been specified by the said server control section,

the control section of the each of the plurality of information processing devices being operable to execute interactive image viewing of an image to be shared based on shared information received by said reception section, the image to be shared being specified by the server in accordance with an operation performed by an information processing device belonging to the same main group, wherein the image is shared only between information processing devices of the plurality of information processing devices in the same main group that are also arranged as a sub group, and

each control section of the plurality of information processing devices also being operable to execute interactive image viewing of the image to be shared based on shared image information received by said reception section, wherein the image is shared within the entire main group with all the information processing devices belonging to the same main group, ~~between which the sub group is set up and which are among the plurality of information processing devices, execute interactive image viewing among the plurality of information processing devices by using the shared image information which is specified by the server at any time in accordance with the operation performed by the user, the shared image information being received by the reception section.~~

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) The information processing system according to claim 31 wherein ~~the~~ each information processing device further comprises an input section operable to input a information regarding a feeling or emotion of a user about an image displayed on the said display section, and transmits by using said ~~the~~ transmission section, to another information processing device belonging to the same main group, the information regarding the feeling or emotion ~~information corresponding to the feeling inputted into the said~~ input section.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended) The information processing system according to claim 31 wherein the information processing ~~device~~ devices belonging to the sub group further ~~comprises~~ comprise a direct communication section operable to directly communicate with another information processing device without involving the server, and directly transmits, to the another information processing device belonging to the sub group, ~~an~~ the image to be shared only within the sub group.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended) The information processing system according to claim 32 wherein the information processing ~~device~~ devices belonging to the sub group further ~~comprises~~ comprise a direct communication section operable to directly communicate with another information processing device without involving the server, and directly transmits, to the another information processing device belonging to the sub group, the information regarding the feeling or emotion ~~information~~.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended) An information processing method executed by an information processing device capable of sharing an image with ~~another~~ other information processing ~~device~~ device belonging to a same main group as that of the information processing device, the method comprising steps of:

transmitting to a server image information regarding a whole or a part of image ~~information~~ images stored in ~~the~~ an image storage section;

receiving, from the server, shared image information ~~concerning~~ regarding an image ~~information to be shared by all a plurality of~~ information processing devices belonging to the same main group, the image ~~information to be shared~~ having been specified by the server based on the ~~whole or the part of the~~ image information;

determining whether or not the image to be shared, which is indicated by the shared image information received, is to be shared only between the information processing device and at least one other information processing device in a main group that are also arranged in a sub group;

displaying an the image by using the shared information when it is determined that the image is to be shared only within the sub group in accordance with the shared image information received at the receiving step, and executing interactive image viewing only for the information processing device and the at least one other information processing device that are arranged as a sub group, and when it is determined that the image is to be shared within the same main group, displaying the image by using the shared image information, and executing interactive viewing for all information processing devices belonging to the same main group;

providing the server with an instruction in accordance with an operation performed by a ~~user on the displayed image displayed at the displaying step;~~

re-receiving rereceiving the shared image information which is specified at any time by the server in accordance with the operation performed by ~~the user~~ an information processing device; and

updating and displaying the image in accordance with the re-received shared image information ~~received at the rereceiving step.~~

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable program for causing an information processing device to execute an information processing method for sharing an image with ~~another~~ other information processing ~~device~~ devices belonging to a same main group as that of the information processing device, the program comprising ~~steps of:~~

transmitting to a server image information regarding a whole or a part of image images

~~information stored in the an image storage section;~~

receiving, from the server, shared image information ~~concerning~~regarding an image
~~information to be shared by all information processing devices belonging to the same main~~
group, the image ~~information to be shared~~ having been specified by the server based on ~~the whole~~
~~or the part of the image information;~~

determining whether or not the image to be shared, which is indicated by the shared
image information received, is to be shared only between the information processing device and
at least one other information processing device in a main group that are also arranged as a sub
group;

displaying an the image by using the shared information when it is determined that the
image is only to be shared with the sub group in accordance with the shared image information
received at the receiving step, and executing interactive image viewing only for the information
processing device and the at least one other information processing device that are arranged as a
sub group, and when it is determined that the image is to be shared within the entire main group,
displaying the image by using the shared image information, and executing interactive viewing
for all information processing devices belonging to the same main group;

providing the server with an instruction in accordance with an operation performed ~~by a~~
~~user on the displayed image displayed at the displaying step;~~

~~rereceiving~~ re-receiving the shared image information which is specified at any time by
the server in accordance with the operation performed by ~~the user~~ an information processing
apparatus; and

updating and displaying the image in accordance with the re-received shared image
~~information received at the rereceiving step.~~

Claim 37 (Currently Amended) The information processing system according to claim 31
wherein when a transmission of the shared image information performed by ~~the~~ said server
transmission section has been completed or when interactive image viewing among the plurality
of information processing devices has been completed, ~~the~~ said server control section deletes

image information by which the shared image information stored in the said server image storage section has been specified.